NUMISMATICS: A FOUNDATION FOR FRIENDSHIP

THE WHOOPING CRANES BRIDGE OF LOVE

The famous Whooping Cranes are pictured here as they begin the rituals of the celebrated "Mating Dance". The male bird first begins to dance by bowing his head and flapping his wings. At the same time he leaps stiffly into the air and comes down, bouncing on stiffened legs that carry him nearly three feet off the ground. In the air he throws back his head so that his bill is pointed skyward. Throughout the leap his great wings are constantly flapping with their long black feathers a striking contrast to the dazzling white of the rest of their plumage.

The female bird moves forward in a facing position. As she approaches she pumps her head up and down and flaps her wings. Then both birds leap in the air bouncing as if they were on pogo sticks. They run toward each other bowing and spreading their huge wings in contact. Later there is an extended period of preening.

In the Canadian Northwest the female bird lays two large eggs. Usually only one of these eggs hatch. The wildlife officials sometimes gather the extra eggs and place them in a controlled environment in order to increase the population of this endangered specie.

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THE BRIDGE OF PEACE

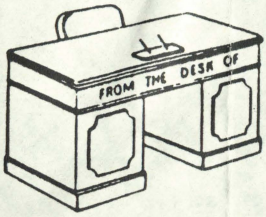
The Peace Bridge across the Niagra River connects Ontario with New York and Canada with the United States. This bridge reminds us of the peace that has existed between these two countries for 170 years.

The Peace Bridge was officially opened on August 7,1927 by Edward- Prince of Wales. This may have occurred on one of the trips when the Prince of Wales fell in love with Wallis Warfield Simpson an American divorcee.

The foundation of friendship between these two was so great that a few years later Edward VIII abdicated the throne of England rather than sacrifice the love for the woman to whom he was betrothed. This is another of the great love stories of modern times.

Come July 1984 there are only nine days between the Canadian and the United States Numismatic Conventions. The Canadian Convention is in Hamilton, Ontario and the U.S. Convention is in Detroit, Michigan. Many coin collectors will cross the Bridge of Peace as they pass from one country to another sharing their hobby in international fellowship.

Glen Littrell; [redacted]



Glen W. Littrell
[redacted]
PH: [redacted]

April- 1984

Hi:

Enclosed is the 1984 COIN WEEK "Whooping Crane" wood. This is the sixth year of this series. Also attached is the vignette of the Endangered Specie and the Peace Bridge. These international sharing responsibilities are further evidence of the bond of friendship between Canada and the United States. The Peace Bridge and the Worlds Tallest Bird somehow remind me of this year's motto, Numismatics: A Foundation for Friendship". I hope you will have as much pleasure adding this wood to your collection as I had in producing it.

Cordially,

Glen

Glen Littrell